Hi Everyone,

Ho Ho Ho Looking back on the year that has almost passed: Well our 2015 school year has been a very successful one. From early term one we focussed our energies on improving the students writing skills across the whole school and this has begun to pay dividends. We also commenced our first year of the Positive Behaviour Program which has dramatically reduced major and minor incident breaches and increased positive rewards two fold. In term two our year 3’s and 5’s tackled the National tests lifting the reading and writing results and we celebrated yet another interschool athletics championship school trophy win for the 12th year in a row.

In term three the students in year 4, 5 and 6 attended challenging and stimulating school camps, our annual cultural day was celebrated by hundreds and the prep to year 4’s commenced their annual learn to swim program. In term four our students, particularly the Slade Singers choir achieved the highest recognition for their performances at the Eisteddfod winning gold, swimming continued and the Christmas Carols evening was in full swing. The School Annual awards along with the selected school leaders for 2016 have been presented to the community and the Year 6 evening looms in just two more sleeps. Plenty to keep us all busy and these were just a few of the highlights.

Thank you to staff and parents: This will be my third end of year newsletter as Principal of this wonderful school and it is important to recognise the collaborative professional team I work with every day. From the groundsman, cleaners, aides, specialist and general classroom teachers through to the admin and senior management team, thank you for such a positive step forward in the lives of our students. To the hardest working P&C members I have been associated with in my twenty eight years of teaching and on behalf of the children of Slade Point School, your super efforts do not go unnoticed. Finally, to the State School love and support of your children. We have made impressive progress in so many areas and together we will continue to achieve further success we can celebrate.

Staff farewell – Mrs Jo Mian and Mr Robert McCarthy: Robert has been with our school cleaning in the early hours of the morning and the late hours of an evening for the past few years. I have enjoyed his friendly smile and positive attitude towards his work. Mrs Mian has been at times not just my right hand but my left as well. Though she may only have worked here half of the week her work output has often been more than a full time officer. Mrs Mian started our leadership journey here with me arriving at the same time. Her valuable contribution to our curriculum, behaviour program, strategic direction, administration, staff support and teaching of our students will be remembered for years to come. I will miss her weekly smile, her ideas, her unrelenting support and guidance and her love of the school community. Though she may be visiting from time to time to offer her skills and ideas I personally will miss the regular face to face conversations about our kids with my friend. Thank you Jo.

Staff wins first Milo cup challenge: The very first Milo Cup challenge basketball game between the senior students and the staff was played last week. From the flamboyant skillful prowess of the mighty TJ through to the tenacious exuberance of Mrs Bishop, the old hands held out for a narrow victory. I commend the captaining of the students team Nasonah and all their players who dominated for much of the game. Fitness and fun entertainment were the winners and the spectators well and truly got plenty of laughs.

Classes for 2016 fluid: This week the teachers and I will be handing out our tentative class lists for 2016. I would like to transition time’ on Friday just after lunch for the children to get to know possibly their teacher for 2016 and their new class. This is only a half our visit but it will help the children with settling into their new class next year. Tomorrow is attendance lunch and your child would have received a letter for this already. Thursday is reward day and letters are sent home for students to be invited to the activity. Friday after second break is our P&C disco followed by our 2.30 farewell parade which includes the end of term token movie raffle.

Coming up:

* Semester Two Report cards presented to parents/ carers from Monday 7th December onwards, please see class teacher
* Wednesday attendance lunch
* Thursday the 10th December PBL rewards day
* Year 6 Dinner Thursday 10th December at the Mackay Surf Club 6:30pm

Have a happy and safe Christmas vacation and I look forward to your return on Wednesday the 27th January 2016.

Rod Finney - Principal
COMING EVENTS FOR TERM 4

* Rewards Day — Thursday 10th December
* P&C Meeting — Thursday 10th December 3-4pm Staffroom
* Year 6 Dinner — Mackay Surf Club Thursday 10th December 6:30pm
* Last day of school — Friday 11th December
* P&C School Disco — Friday 11th December 1:30-2:30pm in the hall

PREP ENROLMENTS 2016

If your child is born between 1st July 2010 and 30th June 2011 they are ELIGIBLE FOR PREP CLASS IN 2016. Please return enrolment forms ASAP to the office if you are attending to enrol your student in Prep. If you know anyone with a child this age, please ask them to come into the office to collect an enrolment form.

MACKAY NORTH SHS SCHOOL SHIRTS

Shirts are only available at the office. Office closes on Friday 11th December and re-opens on Monday 18th January 2016 all week. Shorts can be purchased at PSW (Marvic)

OFFICE CHOICE — BOOKLISTS

If you wish to drop off your booklists to office choice, please hand it in.

Phone: 49659619
Address: 108-110 Sydney St, Mackay
crossoffice.com.au or choice@crossoffice.com.au

REPORT CARDS & BOOKLISTS

Everyone should of received their report card yesterday with a booklist for next year. If you were absent yesterday, please see your teacher.

WELL DONE TO THE STAFF BY WINNING THE MILO CUP IN LAST WEEK’S BASKETBALL GAME!

YEAR SIX STUDENTS:

To our current year six students, we wish you all the best as you move to high school. Please take advantage of the opportunities offered to you!

LIBRARY BOOKS

Please start returning your overdue library books to the library ASAP!

TUCKSHOP

NO tuckshop this Friday 11th December!

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

We would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

School resumes on Wednesday 27th January 2016. The office is open on Monday 18th January 2016 — the week before school starts. If you have any questions please phone 49657333 or come to the office. If you know of someone who needs to enrol their child/ren please let them know to come to the office in the week before school for enrolment forms.

HERE IS THE GRADE 6 TEAM!

SCHOOL STARTS ON WEDNESDAY 27TH JANUARY 2016!